GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1330
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2016
Telecom Advisory Committee
Chaudhury Shri Jitendra

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which the practice of Telecom Advisory Committee (TAC) has come into being;

(b) the number of service providers, approximate number of consumers and number of services that were available during that period;

(c) the number of service providers, both in Public and Private sector, number of services available and number of consumers at present;

(d) whether the Government shall consider to redefine the role and jurisdiction of the TACs by bringing all the service providers and services under its purview for the benefit of wider participation and public scrutiny; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the role of TAC in telecom sector?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) Madam, as per records available, Telephone Advisory Committees (TACs) were formed in 1942.

(b) This information is not available.

The details of number of service providers, both in public and private sector, number of services available and number of consumers as on 30.06.2016 are as under :
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Services No. of Service Providers No. of Subscribers (in Millions)
Private PSU Total Private PSU Total
Wireless 9 2 11 941.98 93.13 1035.11
Wireline 6 2 8 7.06 17.68 24.74
Internet 133 9 142 314.06 36.42 350.48
Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) 6 2 8 0.25 0.024 0.274
Public Mobile Radio Trunk Services(PMRTS) 8 0 8 0.052 0.00 0.052
Public Call Office (PCO) 5 2 7 0.062 0.46 0.522
Village Public Telephone (VPT) 2 1 3 0.004 0.58 0.584
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(d)&(e) Madam, at present, no such proposal is under consideration. The role of Telephone Advisory Committee(TAC) in telecom sector is as under:-

(i). TAC act as interface between telephone consumers of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited(MTNL).
(ii). Giving the public a confidence that their grievances are properly represented as well as redressed.
(iii). Educating public/bring awareness among telephone consumers about the various services provided by BSNL/MTNL.
(iv). Suggesting measures for efficiency.